



Dear NAOTA Members,

This has been a time for change in our organization as well as being a time of sad news and a time of good news. The sad news is to report that some of our members are now in their final resting place. We will be missing **Noriko Taniguchi, Katsuko Fujikado-Lee, and Mutsuo Tomita**. Their impact on NAOTA and their chapters will be missed. Summaries of their life in NAOTA are below.

The good news is that Headquarters will grant the title of Sub Grandmaster to four of our NAOTA members at the Ceremony in May. Congratulations to these ladies: **Mitsuko Maruyama (Northern California), Hiroko Matsuyama (Massachusetts), Yaeko Ohta (La Jolla), and Satsuki Palter (Los Angeles)**.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Luders

President, NAOTA

Noriko Taniguchi 1944 - January 26, 2019

By Leticia Tanoue, President of Argentina Chapter

Noriko was a dear friend and a good teacher. Her family moved to Argentina when she was a teenager. She began exploring what life had to offer. Studying and looking for a life she could lead, she found in Ohara School ikebana a realm to channel the aesthetics she was seeking. She quickly became involved in our chapter's activities, serving as vice president and held the Third Term Master. Degree. She was head instructor for our chapter's study group. She attended NAOTA conferences in Hawaii, Boston and Victoria. She was planning to attend the conference in Chicago this June. Noriko shall be missed by all who knew her.

Katsuko Fujikado-Lee Passed Away January 28, 2019

By Ingrid Luders, President NAOTA

Kay Lee was a dear friend of mine from the time we met in 1975. It was at a seminar Mr. Tomita was teaching in New York. We believed in the principles of Ohara School Ikebana. We went to more seminars, roomed together at meetings, were true friends. Kay's introduction to ikebana were from her mother, she never forgot this and hyphenated her name to Fujikado-Lee when married to honor her. Kay was a Grand Master of Ohara School. Her passion for ikebana continued for many years. With her mother she decorated the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D.C. for special events. She gave me containers used by the second and third Headmasters of Ohara School. Kay will be missed and I will never forget her.

Mutsuo Tomita

1934 - March 5, 2019



Director of Ohara School of Ikebana In New York

Another chapter of Ohara School of Ikebana goes with the death of Mutsuo Tomita. He thrived in his appointment to work in New York in the 1970's as Director of Ohara Schools. He was an outstanding teacher and demonstrator. When not in New York he was visiting other chapters and received special awards from them for the inspiration he created in the art of ikebana. Those who knew him well will miss his love of nature, his laughter, and his love of opera. His friendship will be missed by all.



Contributions to honor any one of our members should be sent by check to

NAOTA Treasurer Alice Buch
1222 N Evergreen Street
Arlington, VA 22205

Be sure to write the name of the person(s) being honored on the "For" line on the lower left of your check. This check will then be placed in the 501 (c)(3) fund and your contribution is fully deductible in the US to the full extent of the law.

Contributions will be acknowledged by NAOTA.